Filing Date: February 23, 2004

Title: AUTOMATIC PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISPENSER

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## **PENDING CLAIMS**

1. (Original) A method, comprising:

sending prescription information for a therapeutic agent for a patient to a dispensing apparatus;

giving the patient a unique authorization code that is not capable of being reused; the patient entering the authorization code into the dispensing apparatus; and the patient receiving the prescribed therapeutic agent from the dispensing apparatus.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the patient receives the prescribed therapeutic agent from the dispensing apparatus without the intervention of a pharmacist.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the unique authorization code is given to the patient by a health care provider at a health care facility.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the unique authorization code is given to the patient by a pharmacist or pharmacy technician at a pharmacy.
- 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the patient paying for at least a portion of the therapeutic agent at the dispenser.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the unique authorization code is unique to the prescription and only associated with a single prescription.
- 7. (Original) A method comprising:

providing a dispenser containing an inventory of therapeutic products; transmitting a proposed prescription for a patient to a server;

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authorizing dispensing of at least a portion of the proposed prescription out of the inventory in the dispenser if the prescription includes at least one therapeutic product available in the inventory of the dispenser;

providing to the patient an authorization code unique to the authorized prescription, the authorization code not capable of being reused for other prescriptions;

the patient inputting the authorization code into the dispenser; and

the dispenser delivering the available therapeutic product to the patient in response to the patient inputting the authorization code.

- 8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the authorization step is done without the intervention of a pharmacist.
- The method of claim 7, wherein the patient receives the therapeutic agent from 9. (Original) the dispenser without the intervention of a pharmacist.
- 10. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the authorization code is given to the patient by a health care provider at a health care facility.
- 11. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the authorization code is given to the patient by a pharmacist or pharmacy technician at a pharmacy.
- 12. (Original) A method of dispensing therapeutic products to a patient, the method comprising: providing a dispenser containing an inventory of the therapeutic products; adjudicating a proposed prescription into an adjudicated prescription;

authorizing dispensing of at least a portion of the adjudicated prescription out of the inventory in the dispenser if the adjudicated prescription includes at least one therapeutic product available in the inventory of the dispenser, wherein authorizing is done without the intervention of a pharmacist;

the patient inputting data at the dispenser to retrieve the authorized prescription; and the dispenser delivering the therapeutic product to the patient.

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13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the data includes a one-time-use authorization code associated with only the adjudicated prescription.

- 14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the data includes a unique authorization code that is not capable of being reused.
- 15. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the therapeutic product is delivered to the patient without the intervention of a pharmacist.
- 16. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein adjudicating the proposed prescription into an adjudicated prescription is done without the intervention of a pharmacist.